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U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice

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Program Announcement

Graduate Research Fellowship Program

Fiscal Year 1986

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Deadline for submission:

March 14, 1986

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U.S. Department of Justice

National Institute of Justice

Office of the Director

Washington, D.C. 20531

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

Never in our history has knowledge about what works in controlling crime and improving criminal justice been so important to our nation. We must be able to recruit the most talented and brightest scholars and professsionals to collaborate on matters relevant to criminal justice policy decisions. In recognition of this need, the National Institute of Justice has established a program of support to advanced students in the preparation of their dissertations and the research required to complete their doctoral efforts.

This announcement describes the Graduate Research Fellowship Program for fiscal year 1986. The program is designed to provide policy relevant knowledge about crime and criminal justice and at the same time encourage qualified persons to teach, conduct research, and engage in the operations in the area of criminal justice.

We would like to encourage applications from as many eligible students as possible, particularly minority applicants who are planning criminal justice careers. Sufficient funds have been allocated to support a good number of scholars who successfully compete for the awards by demonstrating their own capabilities and the relevance of their dissertations to the enhancement of criminal justice knowledge, research, and crime control.

James K. Stewart
Director

GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

1. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: The Graduate Research Fellowship Program provides a limited number of Fellowships, which will be awarded to doctoral candidates through sponsoring universities, to support students engaged in the research and writing of a doctoral dissertation in the areas of crime, crime prevention, criminal behavior or criminal justice. Prior to the grant award, applicants must have completed all degree requirements except for the research, writing and defense of the dissertation, and, if required, an internship.

   a. The maximum amount of any one fellowship is $11,000.

   b. Fellowship awards are for one year or less. Time extensions may be granted for the delivery of the dissertation but no further funds will be awarded. These time extensions must be requested before the expiration of the original grant, and require the receipt of all progress reports showing reasonable progress toward the objectives identified in the original application.

   c. Costs incurred prior to the formal grant award are not reimbursable. Costs incurred after the grant award that may be supported by it are described below in section 3d, "Support."

   d. Concept papers submitted by eligible students will be competitively evaluated by NIJ staff members and by academicians and practitioners knowledgeable about research in crime, criminal behavior and criminal justice.

   e. To be eligible to administer a Graduate Research Fellowship grant on behalf of a doctoral candidate, an institution must be fully accredited by one of the regional institutional accrediting commissions recognized by the U.S. Commissioner of Education and the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation.

2. FISCAL YEAR 1986 DEADLINE: Applications for the Graduate Research Fellowship Program must be received at the National Institute of Justice no later than 5:00, March 14, 1986. Submissions received after March 14, 1986 will be returned to the submitter. Extensions of the deadlines are not granted.

It is anticipated that applicants will be informed of the status of their submissions at the following points:

Closing date of the cycle	03/14/86
Acknowledgement of receipt of submission	
Results of the review panel	06/30/86
Decision to award grant	07/30/86

3. SUPPORT: The Fellowship award may include the following types of support: the fellow's stipend, allowances for certain dependents, major project costs, and certain university fees.

a. The fellow's stipend is provided on the basis of $5,000 for full-time study for a 12-month period. (See paragraph 3c for computation of stipends).

b. Allowances for dependents are provided in addition to the fellow's stipend. Maximum allowance for a dependent spouse is $500. Allowances for dependent children are shown below. The maximum dependent allowance is $1500. (See paragraph 3c for computation of allowance)

Dependent Allowance Per Year:	
Dependent Spouse	$ 500.
Dependent Children.....	
One child.....	$ 500.
Two children.....	$ 800.
Three or more children.....	$1,000.
Maximum allowance.....	$1,500.

c. Stipends may be computed by either of two methods:

(1) Pro-rating of 12-month stipend. The total stipend plus any dependent allowance must be pro-rated for part-time study and/or periods of less than 12 months. For example, the total stipend for a fellow with a dependent spouse and one dependent child who spends one-fourth of his/her time teaching and three-fourths writing the dissertation for 6 months of the year is computed as follows:

$$3/4 \times 1/2 \times 6,000 = \$2,250$$

(2) Continuation of employer's pay rate. A fellow who has been regularly employed in teaching or research by the university or a related research organization, and for whom the study requires relief from employment, may be supported at the employer's established rate of pay for the proportion of devoted to time study. The total amount of the fellow's stipend, however, may not

exceed $5,000. Appropriate dependent allowances may be added to the stipend, pro-rated, if necessary, for part-time study and/or periods of less than 12 months.

d. Major project costs may be covered by the Fellowship award. Such costs include those for clerical assistance, special supplies, reproduction, necessary travel, and computer time. Local and out-of-town travel will be reimbursed at the University's rate. Foreign travel is permitted only with prior approval from NIJ.

e. University fees normally charged graduate students who have completed all academic work may be covered by the Fellowship award. Such costs include continuing registration, library and matriculation fees. Optional fees such as those covering parking, insurance, and dormitory or office space will not be covered.

f. University overhead is not included in Graduate Research Fellowship grants.

4. APPLICATIONS FOR FELLOWSHIPS: Graduate students from eligible institutions interested in competing for a fellowship must submit a concept paper describing the proposed research and methodology and the informational statements described below. An original and four copies of each of these documents must be firmly anchored together and submitted to:

Graduate Research Fellowship Program
National Institute of Justice
633 Indiana Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20531

a. Title Page. The title page should include the following entries in the order indicated:

(1) Proposal submitted to the Graduate Research Fellowship Program, National Institute of Justice.

(2) Project title.

(3) Name and address of university and department sponsoring the candidate, including zip code and telephone area code and number.

(4) Candidate's name, address, and phone number. The candidate should sign the original or master copy.

Name of Candidate's sponsor. Include position, academic degrees, and phone number of university dissertation adviser or sponsor of the candidate. This person should sign the original or master copy.

b. Background Statement. The concept paper must be accompanied by a statement of the candidate's background. This statement will include information on the candidate's education, employment experience and publications. The data should indicate if the candidate has met all requirements for the doctoral degree other than the dissertation, and, if not, when they will be met.

c. Sponsor's Statement. This statement should indicate the sponsor's evaluation of the interests and potential of the candidate. If the sponsor is not the dissertation adviser, the adviser also should prepare a statement for submission.

d. Abstract. This statement, one-page double-spaced or less in length, should summarize the proposed research.

e. Concept Paper Narrative. The double-spaced narrative describing the proposed research should not exceed 10 pages in length and should address all the issues set forth in the review criteria (Section 5, below).

The narrative should also include documentation to the effect that the needed cooperation from organizations will be forthcoming (i.e., if the research involves a police or corrections department, a letter from them approving the research) and, where appropriate, approval by the University's Human Subjects Committee or a plan for obtaining such approval.

f. Budget. A budget estimate within the limits described in this announcement must accompany the concept paper. The information in section 3 should be used in constructing the budget.

5. REVIEW PROCESS:

Proposals from individuals who meet the eligibility requirements and address issues relevant to criminal justice are reviewed on the basis of the following criteria:

(a) Statement of the problem and its importance, including questions to be addressed or hypotheses to be explored and their relationship to significant issues currently confronting criminal justice in the United States.

(b) Demonstration of the applicant's knowledge of the issues underlying the problem area, including ongoing and past relevant research.

(c) Provision of a clear, complete and precise description of the design and methodology for the proposed study, including:

1) Research objectives and hypotheses to be tested,
2) Research methods, data collection and analysis,
3) The appropriateness of the design to the issues raised,
4) Time schedules for major events of the study, and
5) Documentation to the effect that needed cooperation from organizations will be forthcoming.

(d) The usefulness of the expected final products to criminal justice administrators, practitioners and/or researchers, including anticipated policy and program implications.

(e) Evidence of the applicant's ability to produce an acceptable dissertation, including writing and conceptual skills.

(f Evidence that the awarding of an Institute grant will further the purposes of the Graduate Research Fellowship Program, i.e., to improve the quantity and quality of knowledge about crime and criminal justice; to help increase the number of persons qualified to teach in U.S. collegiate criminal justice programs, to conduct research related to criminal justice issues, and/or to help improve effective performance within the criminal justice system.

Based on the criteria set forth above, recommendations will be made to the Institute Director for award consideration. If approved, the Institute Director will then request that the sponsoring institution submit a formal application. However, this request for a formal proposal should not be interpreted as a commitment by the National Institute to sponsor the project. All applicants are notified by letter regarding the status of their submissions.

6. FORMAL GRANT APPLICATIONS

a. Following the initial review, authors of selected concept papers are notified, and the writer's sponsoring university is invited to submit a formal application. This requires the submission of the original and two copies of Standard Form 424, Application for Federal Assistance (Non-Construction Programs), with attachment LEAA Form 4000/3 to:

Graduate Research Fellowship Program
National Institute of Justice
U.S. Department of Justice
633 Indiana Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20531

b. After final financial and program review, formal grant applications are submitted to the Director of NIJ with recommendations for award or disapproval.

c. Following a grant award, the recipient institution is notified by letter of the award and receives a packet of materials specifying procedures to be followed in administering the grant, including the submission of financial and narrative progress reports within 30 days of the end of each calender year quarter (March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31). The final report expected from a Graduate Research Fellowship grant will consist of three (3) copies of the approved dissertation.

7. ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

a. Additional copies of this announcement may be obtained by sending a self-addressed mailing label to:

Solicitation -- Graduate Research Fellowships
National Criminal Justice Reference Service
Box 6000
Rockville, Maryland 20850

b. All inquiries about the Graduate Research Fellowship Program should be addressed to:

Rosemary Murphy, Program Assistant or
Joseph T. Kochanski, Project Monitor
Graduate Research Fellowship Program
National Institute of Justice
633 Indiana Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.. 20531
(202) 724-2962

o CFDA 16.562 Criminal Justice Research - Graduate Research Fellowship

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